

Indiana Supported Decision-Making State Plan – Peer to Peer Discussions

What is the plan?

Disability and aging organizations from all across the state of Indiana have partnered to develop a state plan with the goal of expanding the use of supported decision-making and other alternatives to guardianship for people with disabilities and older adults.

Supported Decision-Making can be used as a way to support and accommodate people with disabilities and older adults with the decision-making process. A person chooses supporters to help them with the decision-making process, but the person makes the final decision. [Learn more about supported decision-making.](#)

Alternatives to guardianship, which includes supported decision-making, exist on a spectrum that range from informal supports, such as medication reminders, to more formal supports, such as Power of Attorney. [Learn more about alternatives to guardianship.](#)

Why is a plan needed?

In 2019, Indiana passed legislation recognizing supported decision-making (and supported decision-making agreements) as an alternative to guardianship. To now put this legislation into a true change in practice, Indiana is developing and planning to implement a state plan that ensures people with disabilities and older adults have access to supported-decision making and other alternatives to guardianship. As a **DISCUSSION LEADER**, you can play a role in making this a reality for your peers with disabilities and/or your older adult peers across the state.

How can DISCUSSION LEADERS help?

The state plan must not only include the perspectives of people with disabilities and older adults, their voices must be at the heart of this plan. **YOU** can help make this happen by leading/conducting peer-to-peer discussion groups to collect feedback directly from people with disabilities and older adults to direct the plan.

- [Become a Discussion Leader](#) – People with disabilities and/or older adults can become **DISCUSSION LEADERS!** As a **DISCUSSION LEADER**, you will:
 - Receive **DISCUSSION LEADER** virtual training in late October 2020;
 - Lead conversations about supported decision-making and alternatives to guardianship with your peers and collect feedback that will contribute to the construction of the plan;
 - Receive turn-key materials to support and guide peer conversations, technology assistance, note-taking support, etc. from supporters;
 - **Be compensated for your time and any travel;** and
 - Play a vital role in ensuring the state plan centers the voices of Hoosiers with disabilities and older adults and that their perspectives drive the development of the plan.

Not interested in being a Discussion Leader but still want to play an important role?

- [Participate in a Discussion Group](#): People or groups of people who identify as a person with a disability and/or older adult have valuable feedback to contribute and are encouraged to join a discussion with their peers on expanding the knowledge and use of alternatives to guardianship, including supported decision-making. If you'd like help getting connected with a

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group of your peers to participate in such a discussion, please click the Participate in a Discussion Group link to make this request.

Still have questions?

For any accommodation needs or additional questions or to attend a brief, virtual Information Session on **Friday - October 2 at 12 pm EST**, please contact Kristin Dulaney at Indiana Disability Rights: 317-419-7595 or Kdulaney@IndianaDisabilityRights.org.